

Public Works Committee Meeting
February 25, 2008

Item #1

ORDERED THAT the Public Works Committee review parking signage and placement of signs with DPW Superintendent, City Collector, Police Department and Handicap Commission.

Item #2

ORDERED THAT the Public Works Committee, City Engineer, DPW Superintendent, and Planning Director consider making Moore Street a dead end at the Springfield city line.

Item #3

Minutes



CHICOPEE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

ACCEPTED 5/27/08

MEMBERS

Frederick Krampits, Chairman
Chuck Swider, Vice-Chairman
Dino Brunetti
Ron Belair
Jean Croteau

MINUTES
February 25, 2008

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Monday, February 25, 2008 at 7:00 PM at City Hall, Aldermanic Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex.

Members Present

Krampits, Swider (arrived at 7:03), Brunetti, Belair, Croteau

Also Present

Daniel Garvey (Associate City Solicitor), Steve Frederick (City Engineer), Kate Brown (Planning Director), John Ferraro (Police Chief), Alderman Brooks, Alderman Zygarowski, Alderman Zaskey, Jeff Cady (General Manager, CEL), Tom Hamel (Chief Operator), Allen Ryczek (Water Superintendent)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

ITEM #1

ORDERED THAT the Public Works Committee review parking signage and placement of signs with DPW Superintendent, City Collector, Police Department and Handicap Commission.

Alderman Zaskey stated that he filed the order after speaking with Carole Harms. She informed him that she has had to abate many parking tickets because motorists were confused by the parking regulations. They did not where they were allowed to park whether in front of the sign or in back.

Chief Ferraro stated that the front bumper is to line up with the parking regulation sign. He does not understand what the confusion is all about. He also stated that you can not legislate common sense.

Motions made:

- Send a letter to the City Collector asking for examples of confusing sign placement (most problematic) and forward to the City Engineer.
- Notify the Ordinance Committee to be aware – signage clarity

Committee vote: 5 – 0 favorable.

ITEM #2

ORDERED THAT the Public Works Committee, City Engineer, DPW Superintendent, and Planning Director consider making Moore Street a dead end at the Springfield city line.

Alderman Zaskey stated that he was contacted by Mrs. Lak who resides on Moore Street regarding the proposed subdivision in Springfield that would abut the end of Moore Street in Chicopee. The proposed subdivision is for approximately 27 homes. Neighbors are concerned that this development will turn their quiet neighborhood a very congested area with large traffic volume.

Alderman Zaskey presented a letter from Mrs. Lak who was unable to attend the meeting. Letter was read into the record.

A representative from VHB representing the developer was present at the meeting, Jeffrey LeBeau. He stated that he was asked by the Project Manager to attend this meeting but may not be able to answer all the questions. He stated that the preliminary plan has received preliminary approval from the Springfield Planning Board. The next step is to seek approval from the Conservation Commission. He stated that no traffic studies have been conducted to date.

Jeff Cady, Tom Hamel, and Allen Ryczek stated that they would not have issues separating the utilities for those homes that are in Springfield if this street is made into a dead end.

PUBLIC INPUT

Ginger Coleman, 288 Moore Street, stated that she is in favor of making this street a dead end because she does not want to absorb the traffic from the new development. She also stated that she purchased this home because of the quiet location and she would consider selling it if something is not done.

Sharon Flagg, 298 Moore Street, stated that the dead end barrier would be placed by her house and she would like to know what it would look like. She also stated that she pays some taxes to Springfield because part of her property is in Springfield but she has never received notification of the proposed development.

Margaret O'Malley, 296 Moore Street, is in favor of blocking off the street.

Joseph O'Malley, 296 Moore Street, stated that the plan presented to the committee tonight is not the plan that was presented in the beginning.

Alderman Swider stated that the Chicopee Conservation Commission should attend future Springfield Conservation Commission meetings so that Chicopee is aware of the future plans with this development.

Alderman Belair stated that this matter should be tabled until there is a definite answer as to whether this proposed project is moving forward.

Alderman Croteau stated that the committee should take action on this matter so that the developer is not surprised by Chicopee making Moore Street a dead end which would require the developer to alter his roads. This would also put the Moore Street resident's minds at ease.

Alderman Swider stated that this matter should be tabled because there are many questions that still need to be answered.

Alderman Belair stated that the developer is made aware today that Chicopee may make Moore Street a dead end. He stated that the message is clear.

Alderman Zaskey stated that there are two homes in Springfield that utilize Moore Street for access so Chicopee would not want to make Moore Street a dead end today.

Motion made by Alderman Croteau to bring this matter to the floor and to notify the developer that if the project moves forward Chicopee will dead end Moore Street.

Roll Call Vote: 2 yes, 3 no. Motion failed. Voting no: Krampits, Swider, Belair. Voting yes: Brunetti, Croteau

Motion made to table. Motion passed.

ITEM #3

Minutes – January 29, 2008.

Motion made to accept. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.